Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A locking cover for a component rack, comprising:

at least one lock mechanism mounted within said cover;

a track for slidingly supporting a sliding security plate extendable beyond one end of said cover; and

wherein said lock mechanism is coupled with said sliding security plate, such that said lock mechanism extends said sliding security plate laterally from said one end of said cover.

2. The locking cover according to claim 1, wherein said locking mechanism is comprised of a key lock, a pawl, a track, and said sliding security plate, such that when said key lock is rotated toward a locked position, said pawl slides said security plate along said track, covering said at least one fastener of said tray.

3. The locking cover according to claim 1,wherein said locking mechanism is a combination lock coupled with said sliding security plate slidably mounted in a track.

4. The locking cover according to claim 1, wherein said locking mechanism is a padlock and said sliding security plate is slidable along a track.

5. The locking cover according to claim 1, wherein said locking mechanism is positioned at one end of said cover, proximal to said at least one fastener.

6. The locking cover according to claim 1, wherein said locking mechanism is positioned distal from said at least one fastener, and said sliding security plate extends to cover said at least one fastener when in a locked position.

7. The locking cover according to claim 1, wherein said cover forms a handle for pulling and pushing said tray in and out of said component rack.

8. The locking cover according to claim 1, wherein said cover is made of a plastic material.

9. The locking cover according to claim 1, wherein said sliding security plate is made of a metal material.

10. The locking cover according to claim 1, wherein said sliding security plate is made of a plastic material.

11. A locking system for a component rack, comprising:
at least one tray slidably mounted within a component rack;
at least one fastener removably anchoring said tray to said component rack in a retracted position;
a cover on a front-facing portion of said at least one tray; and,
at least one lock mechanism mounted within said cover, said lock mechanism coupled with a sliding security plate extendable to block an aperture that provides access to said at least one fastener.

12. The system according to claim 11, wherein said at least one tray supports several components.

13. The system according to claim 11, wherein said cover includes a plurality of said lock mechanisms.

14. The system according to claim 11, wherein said at least one lock mechanism is a key-based lock.

15. The system according to claim 11, wherein said at least one lock mechanism is a combination-based lock.

16. The system according to claim 11, wherein said at least one lock mechanism is a padlock-based lock.

17. The system according to claim 11, wherein said cover is made of a plastic material.

Sub A3

18. The system according to claim 11, wherein said cover is shaped to serve as a handle for placement of said at least one tray within said rack.

19. A locking system for a component rack, comprising:
a tray slidably mounted within said component rack, said tray anchored to said component rack in a closed position by at least one fastener, such that removal of said tray requires access to and removal of said at least one fastener; and,
a cover mounted to said tray, said cover including a locking mechanism which prevents access through an access port to said at least one fastener while in a locked position, and allows access through said access port to said fastener while in an unlocked position.

20. The locking system according to claim 19, wherein said fastener is a threaded fastener.

21. The locking system according to claim 19, wherein said locking mechanism is comprised of a key lock, a pawl, a track, and a sliding security plate, such that when said key lock is rotated toward a locked position, said pawl slides said security plate along said track, covering said at least one fastener of said tray.

22. The locking system according to claim 19,wherein said locking mechanism is a combination lock.

23. The locking system according to claim 19, wherein said locking mechanism is a padlock.

24. The locking system according to claim 19, wherein said locking mechanism is positioned at one end of said cover, proximal to said at least one fastener.

25. The locking system according to claim 19, wherein said locking mechanism is positioned distal from said at least one fastener, and said sliding security plate extends to cover said at least one fastener.

26. The locking system according to claim 19, wherein said tray is anchored to said component rack by two threaded fasteners proximal to a first end of said cover.

27. The locking system according to claim 19, wherein said tray is additionally anchored to said component rack by at least one threaded fastener proximal to a second end of said cover.

28. The locking system according to claim 19, wherein said cover forms a handle for pulling and pushing said tray in and out of said component rack.

29. The locking system according to claim 19, wherein said cover is made of a plastic material.

30. The locking system according to claim 19, wherein said sliding security plate is made of a metal material.

31. The locking system according to claim 19, wherein said sliding security plate is made of a plastic material.

32. A method of securing a tray within a component rack, comprising the steps of:
sliding said tray into a closed position within said component rack;
sliding a security plate within a cover until said security plate covers and inhibits access to an access aperture leading to at least one fastener anchoring said tray into said component rack; and
activating a locking mechanism located within said cover of said tray and coupled to said security plate, locking said security plate in place.

33. The method according to claim 32, wherein the locking mechanism is a key lock and the steps of sliding said security plate, and activating said locking mechanism, are carried out by,

inserting a key in a key lock;

rotating said key in a first direction causing the rotation of an internal pawl, which in turn slides said security plate along a track until said security plate covers said access aperture to said at least one fastener for anchoring said tray into said component rack; and

removing said key activating said locking mechanism.

34. The method according to claim 32, wherein the locking mechanism is a combination lock and the steps of sliding said security plate, and activating said locking mechanism, are carried out by,

ensuring a valid combination is entered in said combination lock;

sliding said security plate along a track until said security plate covers said access aperture to said at least one fastener for anchoring said tray into said component rack; and

entering a combination to lock said combination lock.

Add A7